

2012 Clean Water Indiana Grant



The Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Program was established to provide financial assistance to landowners and conservation groups. The financial assistance supports the implementation of conservation practices which will reduce nonpoint sources of water pollution through education, technical assistance, training, and cost sharing programs.

The CWI fund is administered by the Division of Soil Conservation under the direction of the State Soil Conservation Board. The (CWI) Program is responsible for providing local matching funds as well as grants for sediment and nutrient reduction projects through Indiana's Soil and Water Conservation Districts. CWI also contributes critical state matching funds for Indiana's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, an initiative which utilizes federal funds to encourage landowners to conserve environmentally sensitive land.

Furthermore, the (CWI) Program has supported the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative which focuses on management systems approach to crop production which results in improved soil and water quality as well as profitability on Indiana cropland.

During state fiscal year 2012, the State Soil Conservation Board awarded 21 Clean Water Indiana grants totaling \$1,078,000. Grant funds can be used for Cost Share Incentives, Technical Assistance, and Adult Education (maximum of \$1,000 per year).

LEAD DISTRICT: MIAMI
COLLABORATING DISTRICTS: WABASH, KOSCIUSKO
TARGET WATERSHED: MIDDLE EEL RIVER
PROJECT NAME: TRI-COUNTY WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT
PROJECT DATES: 1/1/2012-12/31/2014
PROJECT AMOUNT: \$60,000



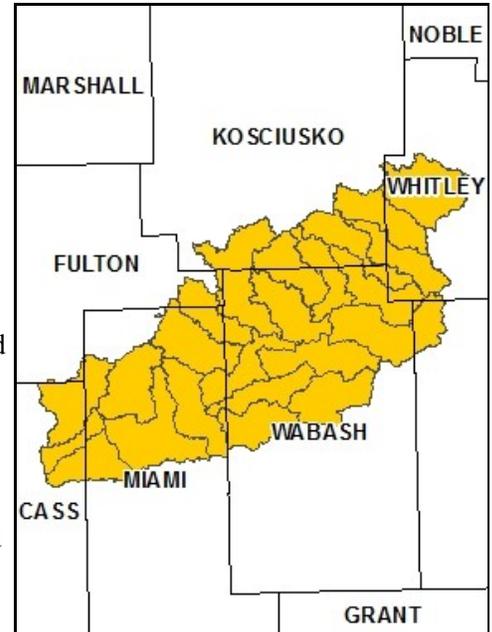
Purpose: Strengthen collaboration between districts and stakeholders in the watershed

Since 2008 Miami, Kosciusko, and Wabash SWCDs have been an integral part of a comprehensive effort to improve water quality of the Middle Eel River through partnerships with Manchester College, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Indiana Department of Environmental Management, and a diverse group of land owners. The foundation of this partnership was to find innovative directions that address resource issues in the middle Eel River watershed that lies within the two counties.

Primarily, the CWI funds will be used to increase technical assistance in all three counties. While each county uses different technicians, the goals of increasing and servicing contracts is especially important for the Mississippi River Basin Initiatives.

All districts will be directly involved in the project through outreach efforts, creating technical assistance alliances, and partnerships with our land owners. Clean Water Indiana Watershed Grant Funds will strengthen the partnership and future collaborative efforts to improve water quality issues within Wabash, Kosciusko, and Miami Counties.

Manchester College is a significant conservation partner with the SWCDs. The initiative is focused heavily on providing BMP cost-share funds to farmers, public outreach and awareness, and water quality monitoring.



YEAR ONE ACTIVITIES:

GRASSED WATERWAYS: 47
PRESCRIBED GRAZING: 208
WATER AND SEDIMENT CONTROL BASINS: 46
COVER CROP ACRES: 9,493

